

Intervention: School/community program for sexual risk reduction among teens

Finding: Insufficient evidence to determine effectiveness

Potential partners to undertake the intervention:

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|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Nonprofits or local coalitions | <input type="checkbox"/> Businesses or labor organizations |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Schools or universities | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Media |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Health care providers | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local public health departments |
| <input type="checkbox"/> State public health departments | <input type="checkbox"/> Policymakers |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hospitals, clinics or managed care organizations | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: |

Background on the intervention:

School/community programs for sexual risk reduction among teens include school-based interventions based on social learning and diffusion theory that integrate sex education into courses for K-12 students. Typically, these programs also include graduate level sex education courses for teachers, training of peer educators, school-based health clinic services, workshops to develop parents' and community leaders' skills as role models, and media coverage of a spectrum of health topics.

Findings from the systematic reviews:

This program reduced teen pregnancy rates in the participating community, but not in the comparison counties.

Limitations/Comments:

This program is recommended for rural youth, African American youth, and white youth. It was originally implemented in Denmark and South Carolina (1980s) and then replicated in Kansas (mid-1990s). In Kansas, the program also resulted in delayed initiation of sexual intercourse and increased condom use among participants.

Additional information:

Sociometrics, Program Archive on Sexuality, Health and Adolescence

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References:

Alford, S. Science and Success: Sex education and other programs that work to prevent teen pregnancy, HIV and Sexually Transmitted Infections; 2003. Available online at:

[Advocates for Youth](http://www.advocatesforyouth.org/publications/ScienceSuccess.pdf) - <http://www.advocatesforyouth.org/publications/ScienceSuccess.pdf>